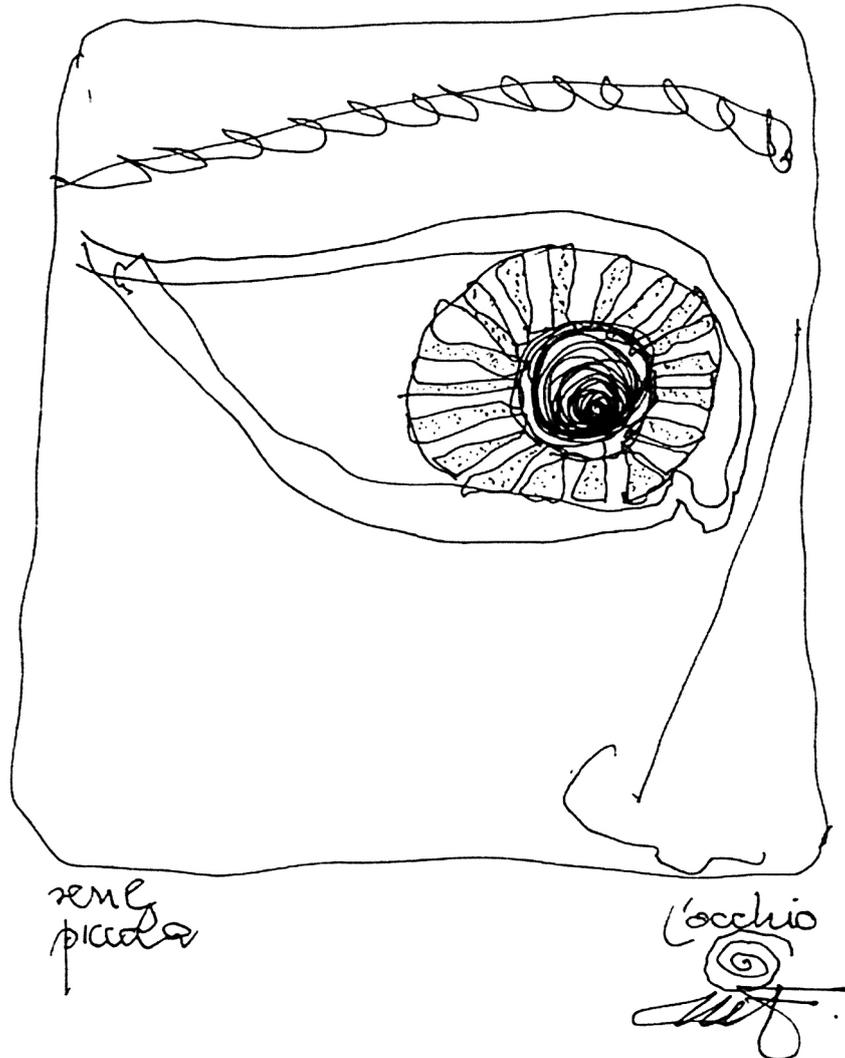
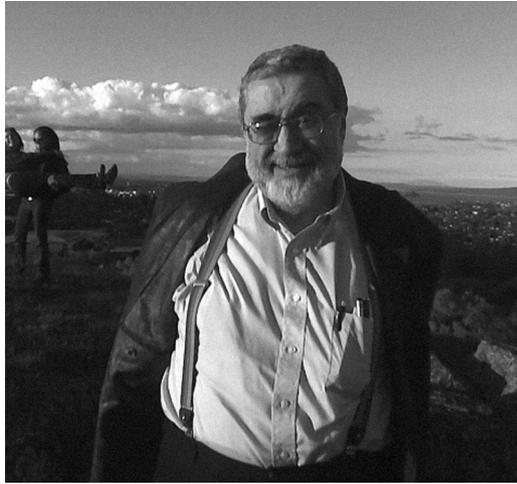


**In memoriam:  
Marco Frascari (1945-2013)**

Marco Frascari was born in Mantova to the sounds of war and in the shadow of the dome of Alberti's Sant'Andrea, on 29 March 1945. He graduated from the *I.U.A.V* in 1969, where his most significant teacher and later employer was Carlo Scarpa. With his family, he moved to the USA where he pursued a MS in Architecture at the University of Cincinnati, followed by a PhD at the University of Pennsylvania. He became professor at the latter, then director of its doctoral programme, teaching there for almost two decades. He was visiting professor at Columbia, Georgia Tech and Harvard. In 2005, he left his position as Truman Ward Professor at Virginia Tech to become director of the Azrieli School of Architecture and Urbanism at Carlton University, Ottawa. His innumerable students all over the world remember him as one of the sincerest, most inspirational and generous of teachers.



"L'occhio" (the eye) from the serie piccolo  
(with kind permission of Paola Frascari)



A prolific scholar, Marco wrote on architectural theory, history, representation and tectonics in most leading journals and, notably, in two books, *Monsters of Architecture* (1991) and *Eleven Exercises in the Art of Architectural Drawing: Slow-Food for the Architect's Imagination* (2011). He contributed "Gee Wizz" to *Interstices* 06 and "The Splendour and Miseries of Construction Drawings" to *Interstices* 11.

Marco was a lover of cats, above all, Herriman's *Krazy Kat* who often crept into his writing and drawings. Truly eclectic, he explored relations between architecture and such topics as food and divination (the tarot, the Cathars...). I once arrived at a library terminal at Penn he had just vacated to find an extraordinarily extensive list of searches on Caribbean voodooism. His favourite preoccupations were dream, magic, storytelling and imagination. He excelled in aphorisms. One guiding thread in his thinking was the embodied wisdom of the ancient Italians, which he set before the rationalism of the Greeks, Cartesians and Neo-Greeks. He explored the split between science and skill, a creation of Plato's, in some of his finest papers. Not without a tinge of melancholia, he conceived architecture not only as a form of making (*poiësis*) but also of world-making (*cosmopoiësis*). A voracious reader endowed with a remarkable memory, Marco always crossed historical knowledge with a sense of the fantastic, and critique with irony, creativity and enchantment.

In 2009, we invited Marco as a Distinguished Visitor of The University of Auckland and keynote speaker for the *Interstices Under Construction* symposium "The Traction of Drawing". It was wonderful for me to watch my former PhD advisor mixing with my colleagues. During his stay, he aroused our imagination and won our hearts.

Ross Jenner